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GENERIC SYNOPSES AND THEIR ROLE IN MODERN BOTANICAL RESEARCH*)

by

Theodor Just (Chicago)

A realistic assessment of our present knowledge of the plant kingdom, our collections, and manpower quickly discloses many obvious and serious needs. For this reason, the speaker submitted in 1952 a tentative proposal to the National Science Foundation (Washington, D.C.) regarding the possibility of obtaining long term support for generic synopses of the plant and animal kingdoms. Subsequent discussions at the annual meetings of the American Institute of Biological Sciences held at Cornell University (1952) and the University of Wisconsin (1953) were encouraging enough to warrant formal presentation in conjunction with the symposium on *Plant Genera* (Chronica Botanica vol. 14, no. 3, pp. 103-114, 1953), at a conference on *The Importance and Needs of Systematics in Biology* (pp. 38-43, National Research Council, Washington, D.C., 1953, mimeographed), and before the Eighth International Botanical Congress. The outstanding needs of taxonomy and taxonomists and appropriate suggestions concerning them can be summarized as follows:

1) A new integrated system of classification of the plant kingdom based on all accessible collections and re-evaluation of old and new facts and criteria derived from every branch of botany has long been overdue. The genus is admittedly the most acceptable and workable unit for such a project.

2) The tremendous influx of new material from all parts of the world and the presence of many large unworked collections demand extra-ordinary efforts and manpower far beyond our present resources. Existing curatorial and clerical staffs are no longer able to cope with this situation.

3) The loss of positions formerly held by taxonomists and the concomitant decrease of the number of students entering this field are bound to create a serious shortage of trained manpower in the near future.

4) Cooperative research, so essential to the success of such a project, is part of the great tradition of taxonomy. In fact, the greatest advances in taxonomy have al-

*) This paper and those by Drs ROLLINS, ROTHMALER and LANJOUW on p. 203, 205 and 207 were read at the Paris Botanical Congress on 8 July 1954. This meeting was especially dedicated to the discussions on the projected INDEX NOMINUM GENERICORUM and a possible new GENERA PLANTARUM. The minutes of the meeting are published in p. 209 of this issue of Taxon.

ways come as a direct result of such. This is one of the strongest reasons and an absolute requirement for undertaking a major project. The rapid progress made since the last war in such fields as antibiotics, weed-killers, etc. attests the success of cooperative research.

5) Closer cooperation among taxonomists working on diverse groups of the plant kingdom would bring about better understanding and enhance their professional status and outlook.

6) Training of new manpower in connection with this project would be a necessary and highly desirable eductional by-product. Chance, too frequently the only reason for selecting groups to be studied, could be eliminated, as the least known groups should be studied first.

7) Financial support commensurate with the scope of the project should be solicited from appropriate governmental agencies and private foundations willing and able to assume this responsibility. Today no single institution can undertake such a project.

8) Taxonomists participating in this project could either move from institution to institution as "migratory curators" or obtain material on loan. Thus many collections otherwise dormant would become vital and useful again. Thereby this phase of the project would provide valuable aid in operating and maintaining herbaria and other plant collections.

9) A survey of work in progress would reveal the areas and groups now being actively studied. Botanists engaged in such studies should be given immediate assistance, if necessary, and urged to complete their projects.

10) The treatment afforded all groups should be as uniform as the differences among them permit. In each case the information presented should go beyond a purely taxonomic description. It should contain in concise form all important data and basic references.

11) Organizing such a project will require serious study as soon as taxonomists have indicated their willingness to cooperate in it. No moratorium on other taxonomic work and commitments is needed to accomplish this project. Most likely suitable committees, set up within the framework of the Congress and interested societies, could draw up a plan for the *modus operandi*, select the style, and take care of all other necessary arrangements.

12) Taxonomists have the obligation of presenting the available knowledge in a manner accessible to their botanical colleagues working in other fields, to biologists, geographers, anthropologists, and others needing botanical information. If this task is well done, taxonomy will not only regain its former place as a basic botanical science, but it will actually assume a much more important position than ever before. For the results of all fields of botanical research will then be placed in their proper framework of reference, namely a new and well founded system of classification of the entire plant kingdom.

AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PLANTS

by

Reed C. Rollins (Cambridge, Mass.)

One characteristic feature of the "new systematics" or the "newer taxonomy" is its position with respect to other branches of Biology. Taxonomy stands at the apex of a group of botanical disciplines as the one area of study where all branches of Botany can be focused on a single target. Here, the contributions of Morphology, Cytogenetics, Ecology, Phytogeography, Paleobotany, Anatomy, etc., can be brought to bear upon the central themes of relationship and evolution. Here, the results of these many and varied contributions can be epitomized for an understanding and clarification of plant life, both present and past. Taxonomy is in this unique position because it deals with whole plants and the groups in which they are perpetuated. Plants of the past, present, and future are the subjects of our study. Any bit of information, no matter how small or of what type, may be useful to the taxonomist. In our work we use not only the results of other disciplines but their methods as well. Truly, Taxonomy is a subject of synthesis.

As a subject of synthesis, Taxonomy is of necessity a subject of organization. Our efforts to organize the plant kingdom into its natural system of classification have been concerted and continuous for many years. This is important, but our activities concerning classification should not overshadow or crowd out our very important role as organizers of information about the plants themselves. The latter is a traditional role of Taxonomy but it has taken on new meaning with the vast amount of information recently provided by the new approaches to our subject. To put this new information, as well as the old, into a useable form is, in my opinion, the responsibility of Taxonomy.

In the past, the challenge of placing in print the available information concerning plants has been partially met in various ways. Individual botanists and single institutions have made heroic efforts to discharge this duty of Taxonomy to the botanical public but none has been completely successful. The task was too great even in past periods. Not for many decades has there been a completed treatment that purported to cover the entire plant kingdom. Now, the preparation of such a treatise is many times more difficult than previously and the need for it has grown with the years.

Experience gained from previously published or only partially completed works should help us avoid the mistakes of the past. Attempts to produce a single series of monographs treating plant groups in great detail are apparently doomed to incompletion. At least we know that the two great works of the last century where this was attempted were never completed. I refer to De Candolle's Prodromus and to Das Pflanzenreich. Detailed monographs are essential to our ultimate goal of understanding and disseminating the knowledge of all species of plants. Their worth should not be underestimated, for it is through the meticulous investigation of genus after genus throughout the plant kingdom that our hopes for the ultimate elucidation of the facts of all plant life lie. But the possibility of organizing monographic work into a single over-all plan of publication seems remote and perhaps completely impractical. Three generations of the De Candolle family devotedly worked at the Prodromus over a period of more than fifty years, but even with heroic efforts and considerable help they were unable to complete the job. Similarly, great efforts through a period of over forty years, by two generations of editors utilizing the services of numerous botanists, were expended on Das Pflanzenreich. However, this very ambitious project has not been finished and it appears doubtful that it ever will be completed. The failure of these two major projects to achieve their ultimate objective demonstrates,

perhaps, that they were too ambitious. A similar enterprise should seemingly be avoided. Monographic work will inevitably continue and the necessary coverage should eventually be achieved without a single project for the purpose.

However, there is at present, considerable interest in producing a complete coverage for all of the plant kingdom treating taxa from the rank of genus upward. If wide international cooperation can be obtained, the chances of success are seemingly good. I am convinced the time is at hand for attempting such a treatment and we should concentrate upon a work of truly broad scope. The international requirements of such a proposal are exceedingly important. There are at least two aspects that should be discussed. One concerns the actual preparation and the other the prevailing point of view of the preparators. I shall return to these points in a moment.

Need and Scope of a Definitive Treatment

We should not embark lightly upon a project so immense as that of an encyclopedia of all genera of plants without a rigorous exploration of the real needs in this area. It is relatively easy to justify such an undertaking merely on the grounds that a modern reference work of the type envisioned is not now available. But we should ask with candor, who are to be the users and what kinds of information are they interested in?

I have used the word encyclopedia purposely because I feel it more nearly expresses the idea of what is required than "genera plantarum". The latter, by tradition, implies a work more or less for the exclusive use of Taxonomists, and, while this would have great value, it would not transcend in scope the traditional works previously produced nor those of a somewhat limited nature now in the course of preparation. To be really worth the concentrated effort of the large number of botanists required to produce it, the published result must have great breadth. In my opinion, the scope should be as broad as possible in two directions, one as inclusive as possible so far as the plant kingdom is concerned, the other as inclusive as possible in the direction of the information presented.

An encyclopedia of plants should be what the name implies. All groups of plants from the lowest to the highest in the evolutionary scheme of the plant kingdom should be included. Speaking as a phanerogamic taxonomist, I realize the problems in our area are not the same nor of the same magnitude as in some of the major groups of the cryptogamic area. It is precisely in this latter area where the problems are greatest that the need is also the greatest. In past years, there have been fairly adequate indices and general treatments produced for the vascular plants but not so for the non-vascular plants. Now, all taxonomists should unify to produce an inclusive work for the whole of the living plant kingdom, and I do not exclude the bacteria.

The other direction of inclusiveness, that of content, is equally of importance to the final result. Here, we should keep in mind the users. What kinds of information are wanted about the genera of plants now living on the earth's crust? Were we using this hypothetical encyclopedia, we should surely want to know the nature and extent of every genus. This would require a brief description using only the salient characteristics. We would want to know about how many species there were and where they occurred on the earth's surface. We would want to know something about the economics of the genus and, most of all, what its relationships were. Roughly, we should want the "content" to include for a given genus as much taxonomic information as is pertinent to an understanding of it. Similarly, in proper balance, we should want to include phytogeographic information, some general statements on ecology, available information on anatomy and morphology, including

such specialized structures as pollen grains, spores, and the like. Pertinent data concerning cytology, genetics, and physiology should be stressed when something is known about the group. Also, a point should be made of including data concerning special modes of reproduction, pollinating mechanisms, and adaptations. Finally, the relationships between the plant group and man should receive attention. Here the emphasis would vary from group to group. The range would be from man's direct utilization of a group of plants, such as in forestry, agriculture, or medicine, to his interest in them because of the efforts required to keep them under control, as in the case of weeds or pathogens. Horticulture is an expanding area in which an interest and association with plants is being actively sponsored on many fronts. Taxonomy should provide horticulture with a sounder basis for these activities. It can best be done by placing the available information at their disposal in a usable form. The first major step in this direction would seem to lie in the direction of producing an encyclopedia of plants.

As a practical matter, it would not be difficult to devise an outline, which if followed, would insure the kind of coverage desired. But this would be to no avail if the botanist preparing the treatment of a particular group did not have the will to be inclusive, unbiased, and as objective as possible. Our inspiration for such an enterprise must come from the highest of motives. National prestige or prejudice must not be a factor in it. We, as botanists, must rise above those forces which tend to limit our perspective and work in the interests of the universality of our subject. Perhaps such points would not need to be mentioned if we had not had in the past the experience of having had national prejudice operative to limit the value of published works purported to cover the world of plants. But we should be aware of these potential factors of limitation and work as an international body to neutralize their effects.

The actual preparation of a great work of the type envisioned will of necessity be carried out in many different centers of botanical research. However, all competent botanists, wherever they reside, should be given an opportunity to participate in it. Botanists not associated with research centers must be brought into the orbit of the over-all work in some way.

I think we will have no trouble agreeing on these points. Perhaps the greatest question in our minds is, "How can such objectives as those stressed be realized?" How can we, as a group of botanists, undertake to fulfill these immensely important aims and do it in the spirit of the complete international cooperation required? These are indeed bold questions that perhaps will be answered through our activities in the next few decades. The least we can do is try!

CODEX GENERUM PLANTARUM

by

Werner Rothmaler (Greifswald)

Seit Jahren beschäftigt mich das Problem der „Genera Plantarum", so dass ich schon vielfach Gelegenheit genommen habe, darüber mit Freunden und Kollegen zu sprechen. Die Frage eines Gattungsverzeichnisses ist vor allem seit der Einführung der Homonymregel brennend geworden, da kein Verzeichnis der Pflanzengattungen die Gewähr dafür gibt, dass ein Name nicht schon im Gebrauch ist oder früher einmal vergeben wurde. Die Stabilität der botanischen Nomenklatur ist aber ganz wesentlich durch diese Kenntnisse bedingt, ja, die Benennung der Arten hängt weitgehend von der richtigen Datierung eines Gattungsnamens ab.

Bisher gibt es Gattungsverzeichnisse nur für einzelne Pflanzengruppen (z.B.

Flechten, Farne, Blütenpflanzen), aber auch diese bauen nicht auf den jetzt gültigen Nomenklaturregeln auf. Sie nehmen meist nicht die heute geltenden Ausgangsdaten für die Nomenklatur an und beruhen selbstverständlich nicht auf der Typenmethode, so dass selbst die älteren Bände des Index Kewensis zur Datierung der Genera ebensowenig zu brauchen sind wie der Dalla Torre/Harms.

Welche Schwierigkeiten immer von neuem entstehen müssen, wenn die alte Literatur nicht von 1753 an in dieser Hinsicht erschöpfend durchgearbeitet ist. versuchte ich 1944 in den „Nomina generica neglecta 1753—1763" (Feddes Rep. 53) zu zeigen. Selbst die dort angeführten Quellen konnten nicht alle ausgeschöpft werden, da die Gesamtheit der Literatur nicht von einem allein und in einem Lande erfasst werden kann. Inzwischen sind aber wieder andere ältere Werke aufgefunden worden, so dass die Nomenklatur nicht leicht zu wahrer Stabilität kommen kann. Wenn wir das durchaus richtige Prinzip der Priorität beibehalten wollen, dann müssen wir eine solche Arbeit wirklich in Angriff nehmen.

Nach meinen Eindrücken aus Gesprächen dürfte die Zusammenstellung eines Werkes, dass alle Gattungsnamen von 1753—1953 umfasst, auf keine unüberwindlichen Schwierigkeiten stossen. Die dafür notwendige Organisation lässt sich schaffen, ja, ich mache mich anheischig, die geeignete Redaktion aufzubauen und die Mittel und die Möglichkeiten für den Druck des Werkes zu schaffen. Die wahren Schwierigkeiten lassen sich aber auch überwinden, wenn die Gesamtheit der Taxonomen an diesem Plan interessiert wird und wenn der VIII. internationale Botaniker-Kongress sich diesen Plan zu eigen macht. Wenn das der Fall ist, wird der Redaktion auch das entsprechende Vertrauen entgegengebracht werden und es werden sich die notwendigen Mitarbeiter an der Arbeit beteiligen.

Die Arbeit müsste m.E. so aufgebaut werden, dass jeder Bearbeiter eine Pflanzenfamilie oder eine grössere Gruppe übernimmt, für deren Bearbeitung er verantwortlich ist. Ausserdem müssten sich mit der Literatur eines Gebietes vertraute Mitarbeiter gleichzeitig für ein bestimmtes Gebiet verantwortlich erklären, damit auch die lokale und in älteren Zeiten oft sehr seltene Literatur bearbeitet und erfasst werden kann. Das ist meist in jeder grösseren Stadt möglich, da die örtlichen Bibliotheken meist über die lokale Literatur verfügen. So müsste eine vollständige Literaturerfassung auch der kleinen Zeitschriften und der im 18. Jahrhundert so häufigen kleinen Sonderschriften wissenschaftlichen Inhalts möglich sein.

Jedes Gattungsnamenzitat muss an der Originalstelle eingesehen und auf seine Gültigkeit geprüft werden, so dass es mit besonderen Zeichen als legitim, illegitim (+), nomen nudum (×) etc. gekennzeichnet werden kann. Ausserdem ist aus der Originalstelle zu entnehmen, welche Art als Typus des Namens angegeben ist oder auf welche Art sich der Name beziehen mag. Zu jedem Namen muss also der Typus (T), der mutmassliche Typus oder der wahrscheinliche Typus angegeben werden. Ist keiner zu finden, dann hat der betreffende Bearbeiter einen Lectotypus (LT) vorzuschlagen, der die Stabilität der Nomenklatur sichert. Seltene Schriften könnten durch Fotokopie oder Abschrift den einzelnen Sachbearbeitern einer Gruppe durch die Redaktion zugänglich gemacht werden.

Bei der Redaktion werden sich noch viele Fälle von Namen ergeben die des Schutzes bedürfen. Die Redaktion hat alle diese Namen baldmöglichst den zuständigen Nomenklaturkommitees zugänglich zu machen, damit diese darüber beraten können. Sie und die eventuell fälligen Kongresse hätten darüber baldmöglichst zu beschliessen, damit die neu geschützten Namen mit ihren Typen gleich in das Werk mit aufgenommen werden können.

Da das Werk zu allen Namen einen Typus nennen wird, ist die Stabilität der Gattungsnamen von da an gesichert, zumal alle geschützten Namen auch in der gültigen Form aufgenommen sind. Nomina conservanda (!) und nomina rejicienda

(+) werden mit eigenen Zeichen versehen. Nach der Fertigstellung kann das gesamte Werk als Codex Generum Plantarum von einem Internationalen Botaniker-Kongress gebilligt und für die Benennung der Gattungen verbindlich gemacht werden. Dieser Codex ersetzt dann sowohl die Liste der Nomina conservanda als auch die Verzeichnisse von Lectotypen. Da in der Zukunft alle neu aufgestellten Gattungsnamen der Typusangabe bedürfen, kann dann keinerlei Versehen mehr passieren. Wichtig ist nur, dass dieser Codex alle Gattungsnamen enthält, die dem International Code of Botanical Nomenclature unterliegen, d.h. dass in ihm alle Gattungsnamen von den Bakterien bis zu den Blütenpflanzen, die Fossilien eingeschlossen, enthalten sind.

INDEX NOMINUM GENERICORUM and GENERA PLANTARUM

by

J. Lanjouw (Utrecht)

I should like to present some suggestions with regard to the realisation of these projects which have already been discussed at some length at the Genève Conference. A tentative scheme has been printed in the report on these discussions in Regn. Veg. vol. 5.

1. *Index Nominum Genericorum.* An index of generic names will be of basic importance for all revisional taxonomic work, e.g. for the preparation of the survey of the Plant Kingdom that is to be given in the "Genera Plantarum". We need a simple catalogue of all validly published generic names in which for each name the place where it was originally published and, if possible, the typification are indicated. In addition to these data it should give its nomenclatural synonyms. These words are used on purpose: this work will be of general nomenclatural importance quite apart from its possible value for a new "Genera Plantarum". All taxonomists need such an index in first instance in order to be able to check homonyms. For phanerogamists who want to name a new genus it is now very difficult to know what names have been used in other groups of plants, and the reverse is, of course, equally true.

In the report on the Genève Conference a project for such an "Index Nominum Genericorum" has been outlined. It seems to us that a card-index would be the most suitable form for the purpose; it could be organized along the same lines as the Gray Herbarium Index and it has the great advantage that new additions can easily be inserted. I realize that my colleagues will, as a rule, prefer an index that can find a place on their desk, which would be difficult with a large card-index. To meet this wish we might in the future republish the material of the complete index in book-form. In the beginning, however, it will be necessary to adopt the form of a card-index. I need not repeat the technical details given in the report on the Genève Conference, but it will doubtless interest you that all participants declared themselves warmly in favour of the project. The conference appointed a provisional advisory committee with the understanding that the members of a permanent committee would be nominated by the Paris meeting.

2. *Genera Plantarum, sensu stricto.* This project will be more difficult to realize. The work should incorporate all available information with regard to the plant genera. The outline published in the report on the Genève Conference, is, of course, preliminary only and far from complete.

The main point to be mentioned here is its relation to already existing works and projects, especially to the second edition of the "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien". The Genève Conference requested me to take counsel with the present editors of this important German work. In Genève no agreement was reached with regard to the question whether the object of the "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien" was practically the same as that of the planned "Genera Plantarum" or whether it was of a different nature. I consulted with Drs Melchior and Werdermann, and in conclusion I should like to cite part of their answer. From this it is clear that they are of opinion that the object of "Genera Plantarum" is quite different from that of the "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien", and that there is room for both works.

Drs Werdermann and Melchior gave the following summary of their opinion and projects:

A. *Genera Plantarum*

1. Wir begrüssen die Gründung einer internationalen Stiftung zur Finanzierung der wissenschaftlichen und technischen Arbeit.
2. Die Publikationen in den Genera Plantarum können in lateinischer, deutscher, englischer, französischer, spanischer Sprache erfolgen.
3. Für die Genera Plantarum ist eine möglichst vollständige Dokumentation, Literaturnachweise, Typifikation etc. anzustreben.
4. Zusammenarbeit aller Spezialisten in allen Ländern unter Berücksichtigung aller zugänglichen Herbare.
5. Finanzielle Unterstützung der wissenschaftlichen Arbeit.
6. Mitarbeit des Botanischen Museums an diesem grossen Werk, einschl. der unterzeichneten Herausgeber der Nat. Pfl.

B. *Fortführung der 2 Auflage der „Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien"*

1. Die Bearbeitung der 2. Auflage wird fortgeführt.
2. Es liegen bereits einige Bände fertig im Manuskript vor. Weitere Bände sind in Bearbeitung.
3. Der Verlag Duncker & Humblot als Nachfolger von Engelmann hat sich zur Weiterführung der Nat. Pfl. bereit erklärt und wird in allernächster Zeit 2 Bände, Gramineae und Ranales, gleichzeitig in Druck nehmen.
4. Die Veröffentlichungen in den Nat. Pfl. sollen nicht auf die deutsche Sprache oder deutsche Autoren beschränkt bleiben. Die Publikationen können auch in einer der modernen Weltsprachen (englisch, französisch, spanisch) erfolgen. Der Kreis der Mitarbeiter ist daher nicht auf das deutsche Sprachgebiet beschränkt.
5. Auch von Seiten der derzeitigen Herausgeber der Nat. Pfl. wird eine Einstellung des Weitererscheinens nicht beabsichtigt, unbeschadet ihrer evtl. Mitarbeit und Unterstützung der neu einzurichtenden Genera Plantarum.
6. Nachdem die Nachkriegsschwierigkeiten im wesentlichen überwunden sind und auch die Rechtslage zwischen dem früheren und jetzigen Verleger geklärt ist, wird ein Erscheinen weiterer Bände der Nat. Pfl. in kürzeren Abständen durchgeführt werden können.
7. Um ein beschleunigteres Erscheinen der Nat. Pfl. zu erleichtern, wäre eine finanzielle Unterstützung durch eine internationale Organisation sehr begrüssenswert, wie sie ja auch in Stockholm in Aussicht gestellt wurde. Sie ist aber nicht Voraussetzung für die Fortführung des Werkes.

PROPOSALS FOR A NEW GENERA PLANTARUM GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Section Taxonomy, VIIIth Int. Bot. Congress, 8 July 1954

A. General considerations

Drs Just, Rollins, Lanjouw and Rothmaler read the papers that are reproduced in this number of Taxon.

B. Discussions

With Dr Rollins in the chair the group discussed the following items:

1. The need for an Index Nominum Genericorum

Dr Melchior speaking in German, was much in favour of this project.

Dr Schulze sagte dass die Notwendigkeit eines Index Nominum Genericorum evident wäre. Er fragte aber wie man sich die Durchführung der Arbeit praktisch gedacht hätte. Die Anzahl der Mitarbeiter an den botanisch-systematischen Instituten war ja schon so reduziert.

Dr Fosberg: "The need for an Index Nominum Genericorum is so obvious as not to need further discussion.

With reference to Dr Schulzes question, the only possible solution is to utilize as widely as possible the man-power resources available of people willing and able to co-operate. This may be done satisfactorily if a rigid format, or outline of the items of information needed, were formulated and put in the hands of everyone interested, so that the information sent in to the Editorial Committee would be complete and uniform.

A further necessity is that a careful distinction be made between information compiled from primary sources, i.e. the original places of publication of the names concerned, and that from secondary sources such as Index Kewensis and similar indices. This distinction should be made both on the original information as sent in to the Editorial Committee and on the published cards.

One other point would be important if the index were published on cards. The cards might well be made the same size as those used by the Gray Herbarium card catalogue, so that those institutions which wish to file them together could do so."

Dr Turrill supported the general idea of an Index Nominum Genericorum, on behalf of his colleagues at Kew. He was doubtful how far typification could be easily carried out.

Dr Lanjouw answered that this matter of typification had been foreseen: Provisional cards could be issued when no type could be indicated. He differed in this respect from Dr Rothmaler who had pleaded for an obligatory choice of a lectotype. This would involve monographic work and hamper the edition of the I.N.G. Provisional cards without typification could always be replaced afterwards when due monographic study had been accomplished. Our first need is the complete reference to all generic names.

Dr Rothmaler: "If we need this index, we must do the work. We need it urgently; Taxon and the other publications of the I.A.P.T. have demonstrated that the number of taxonomists is increasing. I see no difficulty if we all agree to do the work and to cooperate with Dr Lanjouw and his staff."

Dr Ross: "I welcome very much the fact that this project is to cover the whole plant kingdom, for those of us who work on cryptogamic taxonomy suffer greatly from having our groups much less well documented in general than the phanerogams. I therefore deprecate the small representation of cryptogamists at this meeting and trust that every effort will be made to recruit assistance from cryptogamic taxonomists, who are many fewer than phanerogamic ones.

I want also to say that I hope every effort will be made to have all the material included in the Index checked from original sources by having all cards containing second-hand information sent by the editors to an institution having access to the relevant work.

Dr Just remarked that Dr Henry N. Andrews (St Louis) has prepared an Index of the Genera of Fossil Plants based on the Compendium Index of Fossil Plants maintained by the U.S. Geological Survey at the U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.

Dr Rollins concluded that this meeting was of opinion that such an index is needed and should have the support of this group. He would like to entertain a motion that it was the wish of the section that such an index be prepared.

2. Motion on the establishment of an Index

The following motion was unanimously accepted:

"The section Taxonomy expresses its wish that an "Index nominum genericorum" as

outlined in Regnum Vegetabile 5: 48: 1954 be prepared in the near future. The preparation should be in the hands of an advisory committee."

(This resolution was carried by a plenary session of the VIIIth International Botanical Congress).

3. Election of an advisory committee

The following committee was established: H. N. Andrews (St Louis); C. E. B. Bonner (Genève); E. L. F. Boureau (Paris); A. A. Bullock (Kew); M. A. Donk (Bogor); J. Lanjouw (Utrecht) (chairman); F. Markgraf (München); G. W. Martin (Iowa City); J. A. Nannfeldt (Uppsala); G. F. Papenfuss (Berkeley); R. E. G. Pichi-Sermolli (Firenze); R. C. Rollins (Cambridge, Mass.); W. Rothmaler (Greifswald); F. A. Stafleu (Utrecht).

Dr Mason then moved that the committee be empowered to enlarge itself both as to geographic representation as to plant groups represented as need arises. (This motion was accepted).

A short discussion took place on the organisation and form of publication. It was decided to publish the Index in the form of a card index, the cards having the same size as those of the Gray Herbarium Index i.e. 2×5 inches ($5 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm).

4. The need of a new Genera Plantarum

Dr Melchior asked whether a continuation of the "Pflanzenreich" was envisaged.

Dr Lanjouw said that descriptions of the species would not be included.

Dr Rollins put the question before the house as to whether there was a general feeling in favour of such a project.

Dr Keck: "The question is raised as to whether a Genera Plantarum can be completed in a reasonable time on the cryptogamic level. The lack of specialists in those groups is a problem at present. It is suggested that a time limit be set (somewhat flexibly) for the completion of the Index Nominum Genericorum in order to force an undertaking of the work throughout all groups."

Dr Mason: "The fact that lacunae exist should not interfere with proceeding with the project. Even in the areas in which we may think we are informed some groups have no specialists. It should not be assumed that the project is to be the final word in any group."

Dr Just: "My comments tried to anticipate the lacunae by suggesting that certain taxonomists be invited to specialize in groups now lacking specialists. The training of young taxonomists could be directed in such a way that the lacunae would eventually disappear."

Dr Nannfeldt: "I have pointed out already, in Geneva, that the time is not yet ripe for treating in a "Genera Plantarum" most of the groups of Cryptogams, especially the Algae and Fungi. This does not interfere, however, with the project as a whole. The Vascular Plants may be treated independently of the lower plants. And if for example the Bryophyta could be treated now, this could also be done."

Dr Fosberg: "It has not been my understanding that this project is to be published in any specified order. In fact, we have no satisfactory order available yet. If it were considered necessary to publish in a particular order we would all be dead long before it could be finished.

It seems clear that it should be published in parts as these are finished, and that those parts where there are active workers would appear first. Those lacking workers or experts would be slower in appearing."

Dr Markgraf: "Die Frage der Mitarbeiter könnte bei den erwähnten Kryptogamen-Gruppen (und auch sonst) dazu führen, dass die wenigen Spezialisten für beide Werke zu arbeiten hätten — eine unnötige Überschneidung. Deshalb wäre zu fragen, ob die Botaniker international dieselbe Unterstützung (auch finanziell) den "Nat. Pfl. fam." zuwenden wollen wie den neuen "Genera Plant.". Herr Melchior kann vielleicht angeben, was von den Pfl.fam. schon in kurzem erscheint."

Dr Melchior, speaking in German, gave an outline of present activities in regard to the continuation of the second edition of the Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien. He stressed the fact that the new editors are quite willing to accept international cooperation and that the language of future issues would not necessarily be German. The present editors firmly intend to finish the second edition but at the same time they want to express their willingness to participate in the preparation of a new Genera Plantarum which they think to be a quite different object.

Dr Rechinger: "Da wir gehört haben, dass die zweite Auflage der Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien jetzt auf internationaler Basis fortgesetzt wird, stelle ich den Antrag, dass

wir eine Ebene suchen sollen auf welcher sowohl die Geistigen wie auch die materiellen Kräfte kombiniert werden könnten, die einerseits für die geplanten neuen "Genera Plantarum", andererseits für die Fortführung der "Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien" zur Verfügung stehen."

Dr Lanjouw supported this idea. Cooperation between the two projects would be desirable. We could first finish the second edition of the Nat. Pfl.fam. and at the same time cooperate with the German taxonomists to lay the foundation of the new Genera Plantarum.

The president asked for a vote on this motion, but since only a very small part of the audience was either in favour or opposed it was clear that this was not the solution of the present problem.

Dr Heywood: "It seems that there are real difficulties in finding sufficient staff for these projects. Already we have proposals before this Congress for co-ordination of the Flora of Tropical Africa, Genera Plantarum, Index Nominum Genericorum and Flora Europaea. I feel that some concrete proposals to find and finance this extra staff be made. Some countries, such as Spain, have scarcely any full-time taxonomists."

Dr Wheeler: "Perhaps we could defer the definite decision as to whether we should start the Genera Plantarum independent of die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien. During the next five years we could concentrate on the "*Index nominum genericorum*". If at the end of 5 years the Index has been completed and no basis of cooperation found for working with the editors of die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien, then the preparation of the Genera Plantarum could proceed independently."

Dr Tryon: "An Encyclopedia of Plants is quite different in scope from the Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien. The projects should remain independent. We should start a definite project and seek financial aid as soon as possible."

Dr Rollins agreed with Dr Tryon. One point was not mentioned: those of us who had been involved in trying to establish a new Genera Plantarum had also in mind to stimulate systematic botany as a whole by providing ampler opportunities for systematic studies. For such a development funds are needed and with a good project that might benefit mankind as a whole we might successfully approach people in charge of foundations that have money to spend. For the continuation of Nat. Pfl.fam. they would never provide special funds, not because it is not a good project (it is a wonderful project) but because it is a private undertaking. With the Genera Plantarum project going on it would be very easy for its cooperators to prepare at the same time a treatise for the Nat. Pfl.fam. This would constitute a definite aid towards the development of this latter project.

Dr Baehni said that we were dealing with a botanical and not with a financial affair. The Nat. Pfl.fam. needed spiritual and scientific support, it did not ask for financial support because it was clear that the editors were self-supporting. On the other hand who was going to take the overall responsibility of this new Genera Plantarum. It should have some sort of a taxonomic frame but at the moment we had no Engler and Prantl or a Bentham and Hooker. He proposed first to finish the Pflanzenfamilien and then to start another project.

Dr Mason: "The problem as I see it is of the nature of a catalogue. It does not call for an Engler or a Bentham & Hooker but rather in the words of Dr Rollins it calls for an Encyclopedia without going into the problem of the systematic arrangement of the groups represented. The intellectual problem will not be as great as in the preparation of a system since no relative evaluation of the material would be required."

Dr Just: "Improvements of existing classifications depend on more facts. The entire field needs financial aid and more manpower. The original proposal has been envisaged as an aid to the whole profession and a goal in training young taxonomists."

Dr Ross: "1) A difficulty about the project for obtaining funds to expand the cadre of taxonomists in order to produce a Genera Plantarum is that all established taxonomists are established in posts. This may result in the preparation of this fundamental work by a body of people of whom only a very few have the experience we would all regard as necessary. Methods of avoiding this must be worked out. 2) The difficulty of choosing an overall system at the outset can be overcome by a method such as that adopted in the Flora of Tropical East Africa which is being published with each family being issued separately without the work being tied to any particular higher system. 3) This work must not simply register the current

views on generic limits. It must be not a compilation but original work with the author of each part expressing quite definitely the views to which such original study leads him. In the Diatoms such work would, in my view, result in a complete revision of the limits of many genera, and it is only if such things are done that the project will have its proper value. In the case of the Diatoms it would need an experienced person (see point 1 above)."

Dr Heywood: "The idea is not to get extra staff to undertake the work of Genera Plantarum but to get extra staff to enable it to be undertaken. In other words the junior botanists would take over part of the work of the more senior botanists, thus freeing them, in part, for Genera Plantarum.

Dr Melchior betonte dass die Nat. Pfl.fam. sich an einen grösseren Kreis wenden als die beabsichtigten Genera Plantarum.

Dr Lanjouw: "The difference between the two projects is clear from the names. Genera Plantarum would concentrate on genera, the Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien concentrates on an overall taxonomic picture of the plant kingdom, a picture painted by Engler. We, on the other hand, try to find a sound basis for our genera and a future Engler may use this basis for a new system of the plant kingdom.

The order in which the descriptions of the genera are arranged is relatively unimportant. We do not aim at a natural system. We need carefully studied genera, and we should not worry too much about the families they belong to. At present our picture of many families is blurred by their growth through the addition of new genera that were only loosely allied to the original groups. In many instances genera were placed in families more or less in an arbitrary way because of lack of insight. Many of these genera are now practically lost. With our new "Genera Plantarum" all these new genera can be studied again and put in their proper place.

For the time being we shall of course have to adopt some practical system to publish the genera, but we shall not give extensive studies of the groups as families.

Dr van Steenis concluded from Dr Lanjouw's remarks that the difference between the new Genera Plantarum and the Pflanzenfamilien would then be that the descriptions of the families would be omitted.

Dr Baehni admitted that he was entirely confused. Many viewpoints had been expressed but what was the conclusion we were arriving at? Dr Melchior thought the project appealed to taxonomists only. Dr Rollins, however, had a project in mind that would appeal to the general botanical public.

Dr Lanjouw: "Dr Rollins' title is self-explanatory."

Dr Just: "I recommend the formation of a preliminary committee empowered to canvass all taxonomists via a questionnaire published in Taxon to explore this problem, incorporating Dr Rechinger's suggestions."

The motion by Dr Just was put to the vote and unanimously accepted. It was presented to the plenary session of the VIIIth International Botanical Congress in the following form:

"The section Taxonomy is of opinion that the desirability of the establishment of a new Genera Plantarum should be studied in the interval between the VIIIth and the IXth Botanical Congresses. This study should be directed by a special committee empowered to canvass all taxonomists with a questionnaire to be published in Taxon. (The plenary session unanimously accepted this motion).

5. Election of a "Genera Plantarum committee".

The following special committee for a new Genera Plantarum was established: Ch. Baehni (Genève), Th. Just (Chicago), J. Lanjouw (Utrecht), H. Melchior (Berlin), J. A. Nannfeldt (Uppsala).

*

Note: Mr A. A. Bullock submitted the following postscript amounting to what would have been his contribution to the discussion had he not been obliged to leave for another meeting: "I think readers should be aware that for many years Dr Hutchinson has been preparing a Genera Plantarum covering the Phanerogams. This work has now reached an advanced stage. It is more or less on the lines of Bentham and Hooker in scope, but the conspectus system of that work will be replaced by keys to the genera, and the families will be arranged according to Hutchinson's own system. References to the more important taxonomic literature (especially that published since Dalla Torre and Harms) will be given as well as notes on distribution and phylogeny, etc., and an indication of type species (holotype, lectotype, neotype)."

INDEX NOMINUM GENERICORUM

Bulletin no. 1

Origin. At the 8th International Botanical Congress, Paris 1954, it was decided to establish an Index Nominum Genericorum. A resolution to this effect was put forward by the taxonomic section and carried unanimously at a plenary session of the Congress.

Need. The lack of a complete index of validly published generic names has led to the publication of a great number of illegitimate later homonyms and thus the literature has been further burdened by subsequent name changes. In the absence of an index the avoidance of such homonyms leads to an enormous waste of time in searching through the various partial indexes and other relevant literature.

Form. The Index will take the form of printed cards, the same size as those of the Gray Herbarium Index, i.e. 2×5 inches ($5 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm).

Advisory Committee. H. N. Andrews (St Louis); C. E. B. Bonner (Genève); E. L. F. Boureau (Paris); A. A. Bullock (Kew); M. A. Donk (Bogor); J. Lanjouw (Utrecht) (Chairman); F. Markgraf (München); G. W. Martin (Iowa City); J. A. Nannfeldt (Uppsala); G. F. Papenfuss (Berkeley); R. E. G. Pichi Sermolli (Florence); R. C. Rollins (Cambridge, Mass.); W. Rothmaler (Greifswald); F. A. Stafleu (Utrecht).

Executive Committee. General editor: J. Lanjouw (in his capacity as chairman). Advising editors: A. A. Bullock, R. C. Rollins. Technical editor: F. A. Stafleu.

Basic principles. Repetition of old errors in citation will be avoided by consultation of the original literature in every case.

The quotation of type-species will be most carefully undertaken in order to avoid errors of fact or judgement.

Nomenclatural synonyms will be listed as such, but taxonomic synonyms will be treated in the same way as accepted genera.

Procedure. (see also Regnum Vegetabile 5: 48: 1954).

1) The divisional editors bear the responsibility for the work in their division. They should check the data submitted by the co-operators. All data have to be sent in through the divisional editors. The executive committee will bear overall responsibility and will finally edit the submitted manuscripts.

2) All manuscripts should be submitted in the standard form indicated on the sample sheet. Each sheet should contain the text of only *one* card. On the back of each sheet the names of the divisional editor and co-operator should be indicated.

3) The original literature should be consulted. When this proves to be absolutely impossible and use is made of second-hand information, this is to be indicated in the mss. by means of an asterisk in the right hand topcorner.

4) The typification should be rigorously controlled. If it proves to be impossible at the moment to typify a genus without further study, the type may be omitted. Such cards will have a provisional character; their text will be marked with a dagger (†) in the manuscript. When neotypes or lectotypes are indicated, the relevant literature is to be cited.

5) The citation of literature and the indication of special characteristics (*nom. cons.* etc.) should be in accordance with the Code.

6) The Index will give only bibliographic information. Nomenclatural synonyms will be listed, taxonomic synonyms will be omitted.

7) Each card will bear a reference number consisting of the personal number of the collaborator who prepared it followed by the serial number of the card. Provisional cards will have the abbreviation "prov." after the number, and corrected cards will carry the abbreviation "corr.".

8) Except for the citation of family names, the index will avoid all statements of taxonomic opinion.

Technical execution.

1) The technical execution will be in the hands of the International Bureau.

2) The minimum number of subscriptions required is 90-100. A smaller number would necessitate a higher subscription-price, a larger number would make it possible to lower the price.

3) Subscription

Supporting members of the I.A.P.T.

One complete set free

Additional sets at $ 4.— £ 1.10.— *f* 15.10

Regular institutional members *

$ 4.— £ 1.10.0 *f* 15.10 per 1000 cards

Regular personal members and
Associate Institutional Members *
$ 5.— £ 1.18.0 f 19.10 per 1000 cards
Others
$ 6.— £ 2.6.0 f 22.80 per 1000 cards
* Number of sets not limited.

4) The prices are on a non-profit basis. All members of the I.A.P.T. are requested to make known and try to sell sets of the Index. The success of the undertaking depends on the number of subscriptions. The prices are extremely low as compared with other comparable projects. The subscription is meant for sets of 1000 cards only; this means that the annual sums involved will be quite small.

5) Neither editors, nor cooperators will receive any financial compensation. All available funds will go to clerical assistance and technical execution (i.e. 95 % to the printers!).

6) The technical editor, Dr F. A. Stafleu, International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature, 106 Lange Nieuwstraat, Utrecht, Netherlands would be glad to receive advance orders for the first thousand cards.

Divisional editors and cooperators. Many botanists have already promised to cooperate, they will be listed in future issues of Taxon.

News and Notes

THE COMPTON HERBARIUM

The name of the herbarium at the National Botanic Gardens, Kirstenbosch, Newlands near Cape Town, Union of South Africa, will in future be referred to as 'The Compton Herbarium' in recognition of Professor R. H. Compton's long term of devoted service to the National Botanic Gardens and to the study of botany in South Africa. Professor Compton retired at the end of 1953.

The new Director of the National Botanic Gardens is Professor H. B. Rycroft, who is also one of the Professors of Botany in the University of Cape Town (South African Plant Ecology). Professor Rycroft's personal herbarium has been added to the collections of the Compton Herbarium.

NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEES

Special Committee on Stabilisation (Taxon 3: 191. 1954).

Add to the list of members:
Mme M. LE GAL, Paris.

NOTICES OF BOOKS

Trees of the United States

Check list of Native and Naturalized Trees of the United States (Including Alaska) by ELBERT L. LITTLE Jr. United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Handbook 41, 472 pages, 1953. Price $ 2.00 from Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., U.S.A.

Southwestern Deserts

The Trees and Shrubs of the Southwestern Deserts by LYMAN BENSON and ROBERT A. DARROW. The University of Arizona Press, Tucson, The University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 437 pages, 1 April 1954, distributed by the University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. Price $ 8.50.

Leeuwenhoek Keepsake

The discovery of Unicellular Life, Excerpts from communications by ANTONI VAN LEEUWENHOEK to the Royal Society of London. Reprinted from the 'Collected Letters of Antoni van Leeuwenhoek', edited by a Committee of Dutch Scientists and published by Messrs. Swets & Zeitlinger, Ltd. of Amsterdam.

A keepsake issued by the Editors of Chronica Botanica at the occasion of the Dedication of the Institute of Microbiology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J. June 1954.

Copies are available, without charge, from CHRONICA BOTANICA Co., Waltham Mass., U.S.A.

Das Pflanzenreich

Band IV. 276 b (107. Heft), Campanulaceae-Lobelioideae, (Lobeliaceae), bearbeitet von Prof. Dr E. Wimmer, Wien. VIII und 814 Seiten, 1953, DM 70.—, Akademie-Verlag, Berlin W 8, Mohrenstrasse 39.

Rhodophyceae

Die Gattungen der Rhodophyceen, by HARALD KYLIN, c. 800 p., 445 figures, Sw. Kr. 160.— Edited by C. W. K. Gleerup, Lund, Sweden.

REVISIONS COMPLETED

Catalpa

J. PACLT: Synopsis of the genus Catalpa /Bignoniaceae/; Part 1 to 7.

Part 1 - Studia bot. čechoslovaca 12 : 255-260, 1951;
Part 2 - Ber. schweiz. bot. Ges. 60 : 591-595, 1950;
Part 3 - Candollea 13 : 241-285, 1952;
Part 4 - Sydowia 5 : 160-168, 1951;
Part 5 - Biol. Jaarb. 19 : 60-73, 1952;
Part 6 - Phyton 5 : 118-127, 1953;
Part 7 - Phytopathol. Zschr. 21 : 329-332, 1954.

Fossil Resins, etc.

J. Paclt: A system of caustolites/Tschermaks mineral. petrogr. Mitt., ser. 3, 3 : 332-347, 1953/.

J. H. CHRIST HERBARIUM

The herbarium of J. H. Christ has recently been purchased by the New York Botanical Garden. This is a large collection of flowering plants from the state of Idaho and is important chiefly because of the very thorough manner in which the collector covered the area. It provides valuable collection records from many remote parts of the state previously unknown botanically, but unfortunately contains many unicate collections.

PERSONALIA

Dr Karel Domin, Professor of Botany at the Charles University of Prague died on June 10th, 1953 in Prague, Bohemia.

Elbert L. Little, Jr., of the United States Forest Service, Washington, D. C., has returned from a year's leave of absence in Venezuela. He was visiting professor of dendrology in the forestry school of Universidad de Los Andes, Mérida, Venezuela, and had a supplemental grant under the educational exchange program of the United States Department of State. During the summer of 1954 he is in Puerto Rico, continuing his studies of the trees of that island.

Dr Marion Ownbey, Professor of Botany and Curator of the Herbarium at the State College of Washington, Pullman, will spend the year 1954-55 in Europe as a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellow. The subject of Dr Ownbey's studies will be the genus *Tragopogon* which, since its introduction into America in post-Columbian times, has given rise there to two of the three known species whose origin by interspecific hybridization followed by amphiploidy has been established as occurring in nature in historic time.

Dr Ownbey will make his headquarters at the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques in Geneva, but he plans to travel widely visiting major herbaria and experimental centers and observing *Tragopogon* extensively in the field.

Brother Alain, Curator of the Herbario de la Salle in Havana, Cuba, has spent this summer in the herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden. As in past summers, he has worked on the Flora of Cuba as a collaborator of Brother Leon: the present volume is the fourth and embraces the families from the Melastomaceae through the Convolvulaceae.

Dr Lincoln Constance of the University of California returned the middle of August from an eight month sojourn in South America. Most of this time was spent in field studies in Chile and a large number of collections were made in the arid coastal areas.

Dr John M. Fogg, Jr., Professor of Botany at the University of Pennsylvania and Director of the Morris Arboretum returned the third week in August from a three month visit to India. One of the principal purposes of the trip was to secure plant materials suitable for cultivation at the Morris Arboretum.

Dr W. C. Steere, noted bryologist and formerly of Standard University, has accepted appointment as Program Director, Developmental, Environmental and Systematic Biology, with the National Science Foundation. This organization is a governmental agency for the encouragement and support of scientific research.

Dr R. R. Stewart has agreed to continue as principal of Gordon College at Rawalpindi, Pakistan, beyond the customary retirement age. Dr Stewart is a distinguished authority on the flora of the Western Himalayas as the result of a lifetime of study in that area. His assistant, Mr Eugene Nasir, has recently returned to Pakistan after a year's study at the University of California on certain genera of the Umbelliferae.

Dr Leandro Aristeguieta, Chief of the Botanical Institute of Caracas, Venezuela, will arrive during the latter part of August for a year's study at the New York Botanical Garden on the Flora of Venezuela. This work is being accomplished as a collaborative effort between the Botanical Institute and the Garden.

Office

The International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature, 106 Lange Nieuwstraat, Utrecht — Netherlands.

TAXON

Vol. I nos 1—9, 1951—1952; Vol. II nos 1—8, 1953; Vol. III nos 1—x, 1954.

Backnumbers (Vol. I nos. 3 & 4 excepted) are available for all members. Those who joined the I.A.P.T. on or after 1 Jan. 1954 can buy Vol. I (nos. 3 & 4 excepted) against $ 2.— and Vol. II (complete) against $ 3.— per copy. Single numbers are free for all regular members.

Regnum Vegetabile

Vol. 1. *Seventh International Botanical Congress, Section Nomenclature;* report by J. Lanjouw, Rapporteur-Général; reprinted from the Proceedings of the Stockholm Congress, Uppsala 1953, distributed from Utrecht 1 March 1954. *Free* for all 1951-1953 members. Free copies are available for 1954 regular members (on request).

Vol. 2. *Index Herbariorum.*

Part I *The Herbaria of the world.* Second, revised, edition, 1 January 1954.
Institutional members and regular individual members: **free.**
Others: D. fl. 13.30.

Part II *Collectors.* First instalment (A-D), 1 March 1954.
Institutional members: **free.**
Regular Individual members: D. fl. 7.60 ($ 2.—; sh. 15/-).
Others: D. fl. 14.50.

Vol. 3. *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (exhausted).

Vol. 4. *Recueil Synoptique des Propositions concernant la nomenclature botanique, soumises au Huitième Congrès International de Botanique, Paris 1954;* March 1954.
Institutional and regular individual members: **free.**
Others: D.fl. 9.50.

Vol. 5. *The Genève Conference on Botanical Nomenclature and Genera Plantarum,* organized by the Botanical Section of the I.U.B.S., 25-30 January, 1954. Report presented by J. Lanjouw, compiled, from the stenographic minutes, by F. A. Stafleu.
Institutional and Regular Individual Members of the I.A.P.T.: **free.**
Others: D.fl. 3.80.

REGIONAL TREASURERS

Austria: Dr K. H. Rechinger, Naturhistorisches Museum, Botanische Abteilung, Burgring 7, Wien.

Brazil: Dr J. Angely, Instituto Paranaense de Botânica, Caixa Postal 1362, Curitiba, Parana.

Belgium: Prof. W. Robyns, Rijksplantentuin. 236 Koninklijke Straat, Brussel.

Canada: Prof. J. Rousseau, Montreal Botanical Garden, 4101 Sherbrooke Street East, Montreal, Que.

Egypt: Mr Mohammed Drar, Fouad I Agricultural Museum, Dokki, Cairo.

France: M. H. Jacques-Felix, 25 rue St. Quentin, Nogent-sur-Marne, Seine. C.C.P. Paris 2243-12.

Germany: Dr Walter Domke, Staatsinstitut für Allgemeine Botanik, Jungiusstrasse 6, Hamburg 36.

Great Britain and British Overseas Territories: Mr A. A. Bullock, The Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, England.

Italy: Prof. R. E. G. Pichi Sermolli, Herbarium Universitatis Florentinae, Istituto Botanico dell'Universitá, Via Lamarmora no. 4, Firenze.

Netherlands: The International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature, Lange Nieuwstraat 106, Utrecht. Bankers: Messrs Vlaer & Kol, Utrecht, giro 7247.

Norway: Prof. K. Faegri, Universitet I Bergen, Botanisk Museum, Bergen.

Sweden: Mr Bo Peterson, Botaniska Museet, Lund. Postgiro 43.35.39.

U.S.A.: Dr R. C. Rollins, Gray Herbarium, Harvard University, 79 Garden Street, Cambridge 38, Mass.

"Taxon" is directed by: Prof. J. Lanjouw, Chief Editor, and Dr F. A. Stafleu, Assistant Editor. All correspondence should be sent to the International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy and Nomenclature, 106 Lange Nieuwstraat, Utrecht — Netherlands.
All members of I.A.P.T. receive "Taxon" free of charge. Copies of personal members are for private use only and should not be placed in official libraries.